

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20

AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 HA-05 /088 W

-----016303 100431Z /11

R 091145Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7003

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 MANILA 09741

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS:PDIP, RP

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT MARCOS' REMARKS AT AMBASSADOR'S

- PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. THERE FOLLOWS THE TEXT OF PRESIDENT MARCOS' RESPONSE TO AMBASSADOR MURPHY'S REMARKS AT THE JUNE 8 PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS. INTER ALIA, THE PRESIDENT NOTES THE IMPORTANCE OF THE COOPERATIVE APPROACH IN RESOLVING OUTSTANDING BILATERAL ISSUES, PARTICULARLY THOSE RELATED TO THE MILITARY BASES. HE ALSO CITES THE AMBASSADOR'S ASSURANCES ON THE ACCURATE REPORTING OF GOVERNMENTAL VIEWS AND NOTES THIS IS THE BEST WAY TO PURSUE A FRANK DIALOGUE ON MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST. IN ADDITION, THE PRESIDENT STATES THAT VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S RECENT VISIT "HAS GREATLY IMPROVED THE CLIMATE BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES." HE ALSO CHARACTERIZES THE FORTHCOMING US-ASEAN MEETING AS ASSUMING GREAT IMPORTANCE FOR ALL THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED. END SUMMARY.

2. BEGIN TEXT. YOUR EXCELLENCY. IT IS A PLEASURE FOR ME TO ACCEPT THIS MORNING THE LETTERS OF CREDENCE BY WHICH THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ACCREDITS YOU AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENI-
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POTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND ALSO THE LETTERS OF RECALL OF YOUR DISTINGUISHED PREDECESSOR, AMBASSADOR DAVID NEWSOM.

I AM VERY PLEASED TO WELCOME YOU HEARTILY IN OUR COUNTRY, MR. AMBASSADOR, SO SOON AFTER WE HAVE HARDLY BADE FAREWELL

TO YOUR PREDECESSOR. INDEED, THIS REFLECTS THE IMPORTANCE WHICH YOUR GOVERNMENT PLACES IN ITS RELATIONS WITH THE PHILIPPINES.

I AM AWARE, MR. AMBASSADOR, THAT YOU COME WITH VERY HIGH CREDENTIALS, AND I AM NOT SURPRISED AT ALL BY YOUR PERCEPTIVE AND PITHY OBSERVATIONS NOT ONLY OF THE RAPID CHANGES IN THE WORLD'S CONCEPT OF SO MANY TERMS OR VALUES BUT MORE PARTICULARLY ON THE EVOLVING CHANGES IN THE PATTERNS IN THE RELATIONSHIP OF OUR TWO COUNTRIES, WHICH, AS YOU HAVE REMARKED RATHER CANDIDLY, FACES A COMPLEX SET OF ISSUES WHICH CALLS FOR CAREFUL AND DETAILED ATTENTION. I DO BELIEVE THAT WITH SINCERITY AND GOODWILL ADDED TO THE COOPERATIVE APPROACH YOU HAVE MENTIONED, OUR TWO COUNTRIES CAN ACHIEVE A MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY SOLUTION TO THESE ISSUES.

NOWWHERE IS THIS NECESSARY THAN IN THE PENDING AND UNRESOLVED ISSUES FACING OUR TWO COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY IN THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE BASES AGREEMENT. I MUST SAY THAT VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S RECENT VISIT IN THE PHILIPPINES AND MY OWN FRANK DISCUSSIONS WITH HIM HAS GREATLY IMPROVED THE CLIMATE BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES IN UNDERSTANDING EACH OTHER FOR THE MUTUAL BENEFIT OF OUR PEOPLE.

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I WELCOME YOUR GOVERNMENT'S POSITION WHICH YOU HAVE JUST STATED, THAT YOU VALUE YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PHILIPPINES. I WISH TO ASSURE YOU, MR. AMBASSADOR, THAT WE TOO SHARE YOUR FEELINGS IN THIS REGARD. YOUR GOVERNMENT'S INTEREST IN ASEAN AS A MAJOR REGIONAL ORGANIZATION IS INDEED GRATIFYING AS THIS COINCIDES WITH THE STANDING WHICH OTHER COUNTRIES AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS HAVE ACCORDED IT. AS YOU ARE AWARE, ASEAN CONSTITUTES A MAJOR LANDMARK IN THE EVOLUTION OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN THE FIVE COUNTRIES COMPOSING IT. THE FORTHCOMING MINISTERIAL TALKS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ASEAN THEREFORE ASSUMES GREAT IMPORTANCE FOR ALL THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED.

MAY I WISH YOU, MR. AMBASSADOR, SUCCESS IN YOUR TASK AS YOUR GOVERNMENT'S REPRESENTATIVE. I WISH TO ASSURE YOU THAT YOU HAVE THE FULL COOPERATION OF MY ADMINISTRATION IN THE DISCHARGE OF YOUR DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS DURING YOUR TOUR OF DUTY IN THE PHILIPPINES.

IN THIS RESPECT, I AM HAPPY TO NOTE FURTHER YOUR ASSURANCES THAT YOU WOULD DO YOUR BEST TO CONVEY ACCURATELY

AND HONESTLY THE VIEWS OF MY GOVERNMENT TO YOUR GOVERNMENT, AND ALSO TO KEEP US CORRECTLY INFORMED OF THE EXACT THINKING OF YOUR GOVERNMENT. INDEED, MR. AMBASSADOR THERE IS NO OTHER, NOR A BETTER, WAY IF WE MUST HAVE A CONTINUOUS AND FRANK EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND DIALOGUE ON MANY MATTERS OF COMMON INTEREST.

MAY I REQUEST YOU, MR. AMBASSADOR, TO CONVEY TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, MR. JIMMY CARTER, MY SINCERE BEST WISHES FOR THE HAPPINESS

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GOOD HEALTH AND SUCCESS OF HIS EXCELLENCY, AS WELL AS MY BEST WISHES FOR THE PEACE, PROSPERITY AND CONTINUED PROGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. MURPHY

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